

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 29

## THE PEOPLE'S PARTY CONFERENCE.

A National Conference of the People's party will be held at St. Louis to-day. Leading members of the organization from all parts of the Union will attend the meeting and the indications are that several hundred delegates will be present.

The conference promises to be one of the liveliest political events of the season, and the fate of the party may be determined by its action. That there will be many able and distinguished men in the conference there is no doubt, but that there will also be a number of one-idea individuals, each with a personal grievance and intent on making that grievance the cardinal principle of the party, is very probable. The action of the conference will, therefore, depend upon whether the cranks, who insist on having their way, regard less of consequences to the party, or the men of comprehensive views, who are willing to make concessions and concede that they do not know it all, are in the ascendancy in the convention.

The goldbug press is doing all in its power to bring the convention into contempt. It endeavors to make it appear that professional agitators, with no fixed principles and intent only on acquiring personal notoriety, will control the convention and shape its platform, and no doubt the speeches of such persons will be given prominence in the published reports of the meeting. The editor of the National Watchman, who is a member of the National Committee of the People's party, has cautioned the people against the extreme radical views of the one-idea and grievance men, some of whom may be sent to the convention in the interest of the money kings to advocate isms that no sensible citizen can approve, and thus kill off the party before the next Presidential campaign.

The Gold Trust fears the independent element. It can unite Republicans and Democrats in the Senate and House of Representatives to accomplish its purposes, but the independents stand firm and present an unbroken front to the Wall Street brigade on every occasion, and, though overpowered by superior numbers, never retreat or surrender. To prevent the people from reinforcing the gallant few who have valiantly battled for their interest is the aim of the gold men, and their press and speakers will resort to duplicity, misrepresentation and all the devilish devices of unscrupulous politicians to attain that end.—Journal.

## EDITORIAL NOTES.

Donovan of Bay, the only Democrat in the Michigan Legislature, will have to serve on all the committees, the law providing that the minority shall be represented on every one. It is likely that Mr. Donovan will die of brain fog before the session is half over and then there will be the quandary of no minority whatever.

Gen. Booth's assertion that 80 per cent of the fallen women taken in charge by the Salvation Army in England are earning a living by honest toil, and that 3,000 such women are rescued every year, will surprise our American philanthropists, and it will be regarded as incredible by many people. If so much has been done in England, more can be done in the United States.

Private advice from Senators confirm press correspondence that the Nicaragua Canal bill is likely to pass the Senate without serious trouble. There are no radical differences between the Senate and the House bills and there will probably be no great difficulty about reaching an agreement in conference.

A Sunday school superintendent, who had stated that there was no such person as Santa Claus, and that, therefore, a Christmas tree in the school with St. Nicholas distributing gifts to the children would be a lie, was startled to a surprise in the school on the 25th. Santa Claus was there, the tree was there, the gifts were there, and the children were there.

Chas. distributed the gifts after the superintendent had resigned. The greatest surprise came when the gentleman with the huff was not asked to reconsider his resignation.

The Mount Ranier expedition concluded to abandon the ascent owing to the danger of an additional fall. The explorers claim to have demonstrated that, while the mountain has been both smoldering and smoldering, the change is due principally to the tremendous avalanche and not to an eruption. The expedition was forced from Seattle's off Columbia crest, and was found by spiral winds carrying the snow and whipping it into the cone-shaped peaks described.

Two thieves robbed the residence of a prominent hotel at Santa Ana and were pursued. One was captured and handcuffed and the other had been taken to the farm, with whom the thief had been and was wrestling with the horse on a farm. The thief had got the best of the farmer as the horse came up, and, leaving the gun in the marsh, he demanded him to hold up his hands. The marshal did so, but shot the thief through the heart in the operation. The dead man is unidentified.

William Wagner, a Montana miner and prospector, is believed to have perished in the upper Columbia country, Wash. He was prospecting during a two-day snow storm, and it is thought he lost his bearings.

George C. Ge, the driver of the St. Louis and Fort Thomas A. T. stage, has been arrested for kidnapping. He gave out a story that he had been held up, but he did not say who his captors were, and his statements were too contradictory to be true.

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Daily Express and Passenger trains make prompt connections with the several railroad lines in the East.

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